



NEWSLETTER

OF THE

**Estancia United Methodist
Church**

600 Williams, Estancia, New Mexico

<http://www.estancismethodist.org>



AUGUST 2015

Estancia United Methodist Church

www.EstanciaMethodist.org

600 W. Williams, P.O. Box 126, Estancia, NM 87016

Pastor Bonnie Hardesty Ph. 505-271-0486

Email bjharde1@msn.com

Church Council Chair	Melanie Chavez
Christian Education Chair	Cheryl Chavez
Comptroller & Trustees Chair	Bill Simms
Finance & Recording Secretary, Treasurer	Vickie Coburn
Lay Leader & Annual Conference Delegate	Elaine Darnell
McMurry College Representative	Raymond Moore
Membership Nurture	Barbara Simms
Membership Roll	Carolyn Moore & Marque Sturgis
Music	Morrow Hall
Native American Ministries	Rev. Bonnie Hardesty
Outreach & Food Vouchers	Butch McGee
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Lee Widner
Summer Camp Representatives	Carolyn Hill & Julie Morales
United Methodist Men Chair	Nick Griffio
United Methodist Youth Fellowship	Alexandra Chavez & Jesse Chavez
Worship Chair	Julie Griffio

From the Desk of...

Pastor Bonnie

Ahhhhh... VACATION!

I feel SO MUCH BETTER NOW !!!

Time away with God is an essential part of every Christian's life. My time away provided an opportunity to reconnect with the incredible majesty and beauty of God's creation, time to observe God's handiwork and hear God's voice in it all:

- The incredible roar of Niagara, Athabasca, and Sunwapta waterfalls
- The sometimes-not-so-gentle rocking of the train as I lie in my berth
- The crunch of the ice underfoot and the cold sting of the slush creeping up over the tops of my shoes as I walked on Athabasca Glacier
- The taste of Scotch on the Rockies, mixed with Glacier water!
- The breathtaking grandeur of

mountains rising into the clouds, rivers winding for hundreds of miles, and the mist rising off a thousand bodies of water – from puddles to rivers to Peyto and Lake Louise to the Great Lakes and Puget Sound

- The silent beauty of a million stars as our train chugged through the darkest nights of the Canadian wilderness
- Amazement at the goodness of the earth as it poured forth an abundance of Canola, Mustard, Soybeans, and Wheat – mile after mile after mile after mile
- The smell of pine in the forests - and a million flowers hanging from thousands of baskets - on seemingly EVERY fence and light pole in western Canada
- The scream of the freight train whistles as they passed us by
- A reminder of God's promises in the double rainbow over Jasper as we awaited our (late again!) train
- The warmth of hugs and handshakes from new-found friends
- The joy of harmony and laughter, singing our way through the trial of literally baring our dirty laundry, as we re-entered the US.

Yes, God is alive and well...

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows the work of his hands." Ps 19:1

Bringing People Closer to Christ

Have you ever been fishing? What do you do when the bait you are using isn't attracting the fish? Do you curse the fish and continue to use the same bait or do you change the bait?

Have you ever fed your children food that was good for them but they didn't like? I'm thinking broccoli, Brussels sprouts, or liver.....yuck! Which is better – eating the vitamin rich food or forcing them to eat it plain, like you had to when you were a kid? Cheese or ketchup works wonders!

Bringing others closer to Christ is much like these two examples. Think for a minute about how Jesus taught about God and His kingdom. He talked, He showed, He acted, He quoted scripture and much more. Sometimes He talked to groups, sometimes to crowds and sometimes to individuals. He chose when to use miracles and when not. He taught in ways people could understand by using stories and parables they could relate to. He knew when to encourage people to tell everyone what happened and when to tell them to keep it a secret. He knew when his disciples needed a hand's on lesson, as when they were on the boat in the storm or when he appeared to them in the upper room.

The key to Jesus' success was that He helped people believe in God by meeting them "where they were." Jesus taught them in a manner they could understand and connect with. It may not be the way Jesus wanted to teach them, but it was what the people needed. It wasn't about Jesus' needs, it was about their needs.

Mark 16:15 and 5:16 (respectively) says, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation," and "In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Clearly these verses tell us our "job" is to bless others and honor God by bringing people closer to Christ. It may mean introducing them for the first time, rekindling the spark that burned out long ago, or helping their belief become stronger.

If we use Jesus' teachings as a guide, we will reach people by keeping their needs in mind when we are trying to reach and teach them. It is not about us, it is about them and their walk with Christ. Our job is to help, encourage and support their journey. It takes creativity, flexibility, and insight. One person may experience Christ through traditional music, another may need contemporary, or another rock. One may come closer through quietly listening to a sermon and another may be blessed through activity such as art, games or adventure. One may need one-on-one conversation and another may need the crowd. One may need the NIV Bible, another the King James version; one in Japanese, another in English. If we truly want to show our love for God and help others learn about Christ, we must keep their needs in mind first. It is very tempting to say, "This is the way I learned," or "This is the way we always do it." The problem with this is that our desire to meet our needs may be at the expense of who we are called to serve. When we are rigid with our "delivery," we risk the chance of not bringing people to Christ.

We also need not focus on the "what's in it for me" or "what's in it for my church" question. Sometimes we do not want to do anything different because it won't increase our attendance on Sunday. That is not what it is about. It's about helping people become connected to God and Christ, no matter if or when they come to our church or any other church. Our success is not necessarily in easy to see numbers and statistics. We are planting seeds and may not see the fruit of our effort for years. Our job is to help people learn about God and Christ, regardless of which church home they choose. As Peggy Stevens said in her sermon today, "there are many boats floating down the river." The goal is to get you down the river with Jesus as the captain of the boat. All of the boats are "united in Christ," bringing people closer to God.

Finally, Matthew 22:37-40 sets a foundation for Jesus' actions and His approach to bringing people to God. "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments" (NIV). We show the ultimate level of love for God and our neighbor when we put our own needs aside to help others find Christ. So, let us work together as a congregation to reach others, teach others and bless others in a variety of ways!!

Melanie Chavez

Revised Common Lectionary Readings for the Month of August:				
If you follow along and read the 4 selections (generally one selection each from the Old Testament, Psalms, New Testament, and Gospels) for each week, in the course of a year you'll read nearly all the Bible – Try it!				
<u>August 2, 2015</u> 2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a Psalm 51:1-12 Ephesians 4:1-16 John 6:24-35	<u>August 9, 2015</u> 2 Samuel 18:5-9,15,31-33 Psalm 130 Ephesians 4:25-5:2 John 6:35, 41-51	<u>August 16, 2015</u> 1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14 Psalm 111 Ephesians 5:15-20 John 6:51-58	<u>August 23, 2015</u> 1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43 Psalm 84 Ephesians 6:10-20 John 6:56-69	<u>August 30, 2015</u> Song of Solomon 2:8-13 Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 James 1:17-27 Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Let's All Be a Little Kinder to Each Other

via Heart to Heart with Holley Gerth

I want a t-shirt that says, "Be kind: You can't see how far I've already come."

*Less criticism. More cheering.
Less assuming. More understanding.
Less gawking. More seeing the best.*

Sacramento Camp



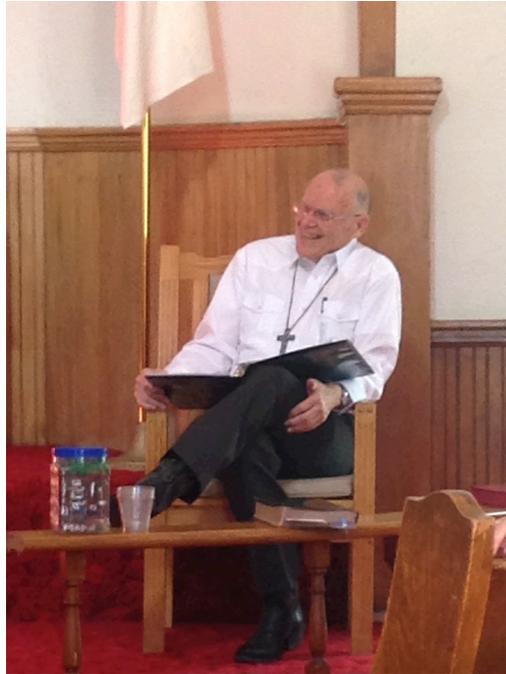
Music on the Mountain was amazing! The best part was meeting so many new people. There were so many activities to do, great people to be with, and good classes to take. In worship, we learned that Jesus taught using parables. On Wednesday, there was a talent show for the adults and on Thursday, one for the campers. There was so much talent! We put on an amazing concert on Friday for families as they came to pick us up. There was choir, theater, hand-bells, orchestra, concert band, jazz band, and praise band!

We linked our performances with the first parable we learned. The parable teaches when a farmer plants seeds, some seeds fall on the path and get picked up by birds, some fall on the rocks where they take root, but get dried up by the sun. Some of the seeds fall in the thorns and have very limited growth and some seeds fall in the good soil, they take root and grow. People who have faith and believe in God are like seeds planted in good soil. For example: in theater, one of the plays was about a family whose dad loses his arm in a battle. The children represent the seeds on the rocks; they had faith but lost it. The father represented the seeds in the thorn bushes, his faith was cut short and his wife represented the seeds sown in good soil, they took root and stayed faithful and trusting in God. There was a girl who moved in with the family and she represented the seeds that fell on the path and were picked up by birds and carried away.

All in all, camp was one of the best experiences I've ever had. I forgot to add that the food is amazing! I loved camp and am looking forward to going next year! Thanks to the church for giving your change each Sunday to help us go to camp!

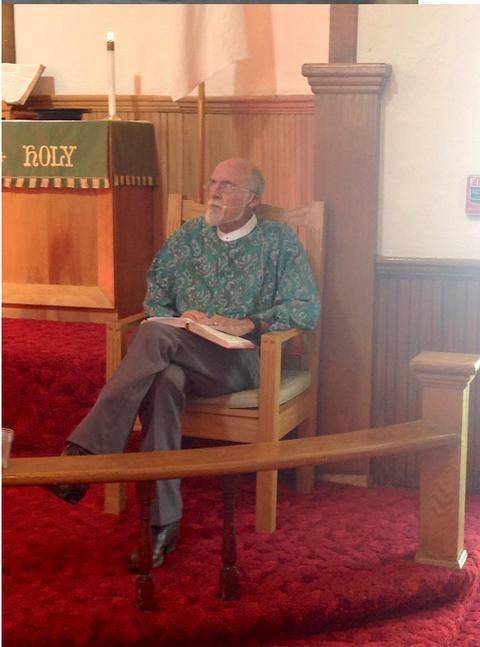
Alexandra Chavez





Lay servant Peggy Stevens helped Novie Kieth and Bill with the special music in the park on July 5. GrillMaster Lee Widner and his helper grilled hot dogs for the community on July 4 while the Mountainside Jug Band provided the Music. Rev John Millholland Gave the Sunday Message on July 19. Rev. Charlie Spooner gave the message on July 26.

MANY THANKS!





Promise Seekers Camp

Thank you for helping me go to Promise Seekers Camp at Sacramento. I had so much fun! It was amazing! I knew a lot of the things we learned at camp from church, Bible Guppies, and Vacation Bible School. I now understand even more about Jesus. To learn more about Him, we played games, sang songs, worshipped, and competed in a Bible Bowl. Our team won! One of the best parts of camp was the food. Since I am a very picky eater, it shows how good it was! I met lots of people and had a great time! I hope I can go to camp next year!

Daniel Chavez

52 Messages of Hope! Pastor Bonnie is preaching a series this year on HOPE. Every Sunday we hear another reason for us, as Christians, to be hope-full! Following is a *very brief synopsis* of the Hopeful Message preached before her vacation in July. More to come in August!

Date	Sermon Notes	The Reason for Our Hope
7/5/15	Moses tells us, in Deuteronomy chapter 10, that God makes very specific requirements of His people. The prophet, Micah paraphrases those requirements; and Jesus lays them out plainly in the New Testament book of Mark: <i>“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. ...and love your neighbor as yourself.”</i> But for many of us fiercely independent, rugged individualists, we’d rather follow Frank Sinatra singing, <i>“I did it MY WAY!”</i>	But here is the reason for our hope: Jesus teaches, in John 15:11, <i>“These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full.”</i> Reverence, obedience, love, and service in His name bring abundant joy to our lives – and <i>THAT’S</i> something worth hoping for!

Certified Lay Minister Training

Certified Lay Minister George Little and Certified Lay Servant Peggy Stevens helped fill the Mountainair & Estancia pulpits during Pastor Bonnie’s vacation. Have YOU ever considered God’s calling in YOUR LIFE to help spread the Gospel message? Certified Lay Ministers assist ordained Clergy in lots of ways:

- visitation and care ministry
- as parish nurse (with appropriate training)
- as a small group leader
- in preaching ministries
- as a missionary or church planter
- in smaller new faith communities that are not stand-alone parishes; house churches, ethnic fellowships, small

faith communities

- in Ethnic Ministries
- as Hispanic/Latino Lay Missioners
- as a pastor of a small church as part of a ministry team
- on a pastoral team on multi-point charges or parishes to assist in continuity of leadership
- as a pastoral associate in a larger church
- serving multi-cultural or cross-cultural groups by developing indigenous leadership

If you feel that God is calling you to any of these roles in ministry, read on...

The first of four Certified Lay Minister training modules will be held on September 25th, 6:30-9:00, and September 26th, 9:00 am-4pm, at University UMC in Las Cruces. This training is one component in the steps leading toward certification. Training includes four modules focused on: United Methodism, Call and Covenant for Ministry, The Practice of Ministry and The Organization of Ministry. All four modules must be completed as part of the certification requirements.

Who is a Certified Lay Minister? According to the Book of Discipline a CLM is an extension of the historic role of laity in the Methodist environment who is trained, supported, supervised and accountable for leadership in his/her ministry context. Certified Lay Ministers are vital to the mission and ministry of the church. A CLM can be assigned as an appropriate leader in a smaller church or faith community and has the support and supervision of a clergy person. CLM's are qualified United Methodist laypersons called to congregational leadership as part of a ministry team. The certification process prepares the CLM to be an intentional, holistic congregational leader who can preach the Word, provide care ministry for a congregation and assist in program leadership.

Could you serve God faithfully as a CLM in the congregation you are a member of or one nearby? Are you willing to explore this form of leadership in the United Methodist Church? Consider becoming a Certified Lay Minister and experience what it is like to be faithfully alive to the possibilities of leading the mission and ministry of the church today as part of a ministry team. Each CLM trainee must have a letter of recommendation from their local Pastor and have completed the Basic Course for Local Church Lay Servant and one advanced course for Certified Lay Servant. For more information or a registration form, please contact Pastor Bonnie. Registration forms are due by September 1, 2015.

Module Trainings in Las Cruces: Module I: September 25-26, Module II: November 13-14, Module III: January 8-9, Module IV: March 4-5, CLM Retreat: April 22-23

Classes are held Fridays: 6:30-9:00 and Saturdays 9:00-4:00, at University UMC, 2000 S. Locust, Las Cruces, NM 88001



Pencil it in !

September 19 & 20 - HCI Consultation Weekend in Estancia - Guest Preacher, Clovis District Superintendent Jane Vaughan

October 8 thru 11 - Pastor Bonnie will be serving on a Four Corners Emmaus Team in Hesperus, CO

October 11 - Certified Lay Minister Keith Smith will fill the Estancia & Mountainair pulpits

October 13 thru 29 - Nomads visit Estancia UMC to help make facility improvements

October 18 - 100th Anniversary Celebration @ Mountainair UMC, with Special Guest Bishop Bledsoe

We Are the Light of the World-- But Who Changed the Bulb?

How many Catholics does it take to change a light bulb?

None. They always use candles.

[Variant: How many Roman Catholics does it take to change a light bulb? Nun.]

How many Episcopalians does it take to change a light bulb??

Ten. One to actually change the bulb, and nine to say how much better they liked the old one.

How many Methodists does it take to change a light bulb??

"We choose not to make a statement either in favor of or against the need for a light bulb. However, if in your own journey, you have found that a light bulb works for you, that is fine. You are invited to write a poem or compose a modern dance about your personal relationship to your light bulb and present it next month at our annual light bulb Sunday service, in which we will explore a number of light bulb traditions, including incandescent, fluorescent, three-way, long-life and tinted, all of which are equally valid paths to luminescence through Jesus Christ."

Mountainair United Methodist Church

211 S. Sunset, Mountainair, NM 87036

Pastor Bonnie Hardesty Ph. 505-271-0486

Email bjharde1@msn.com

Church Council Chair, Lay Leader,	
Worship Chair & Recording Secretary	Patty Mahoney
Finance Chair, Trustees Chair & Treasurer	Kent Potter
Annual Conference Delegate & Outreach	Wanda Giovengo
McMurry College Representative	Anna Hopping
Native American Ministries	Nancy Karlsberger
Social Concerns Chairpersons	David & Maribeth Dixon
Staff Parrish Relations Chair	Bertha Warner

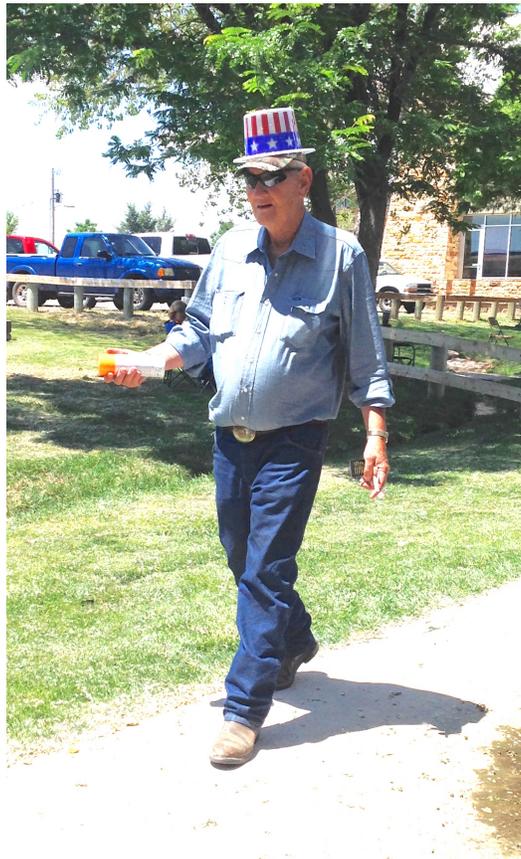
How many Presbyterians does it take to change a light bulb?

None. God has pre-ordained when the lights will be on and when they will be off.

How many Baptists does it take to change a light bulb????

CHANGE ???????????????

Susan Samuels helps serve communion during the park worship service.



Here comes the bug spray

August



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						August 1
2 Communion Sunday Altar Color – Green	3 Accountable Discipleship Study ABQ, 6pm	4	5 7am Pastor’s Breakfast, ABQ <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8pm Movie/Game Night returns to Estancia!	6	7	8
9 1pm Estancia Ad Council Altar Color – Green	10 Estancia Back-to-School Pencil Bouquet Delivery Accountable Discipleship Study ABQ, 6pm	11 10-2pm Mt Air Back-to-School Luncheon	12 7am Pastor’s Breakfast, ABQ <input type="checkbox"/> 11:30 Faith @ Work Luncheon <input type="checkbox"/> 1:30 Prayer meeting @ the Moore’s (303 N Walker) <input type="checkbox"/> 6-8pm Movie/Game Night in Estancia!	13	14	15 8am UMM Breakfast, Estancia
16 Noon MtAir Pot-Luck & Ad Council Altar Color – Green	17 1st Day of School! Accountable Discipleship Study ABQ, 6pm	18 2-6pm Promised Land / Road-runner Food Bank / Kids’ Program, MtAir	19 7am Pastor’s Breakfast, ABQ TRUSTEES 3:30 <input type="checkbox"/> 4:30-6:30pm Family Night in Estancia!	20 11-2 AMA	21	22 5am-8pm Pastor Bonnie’s Emmaus Team Meeting in Farmington
23 10am Combined Worship in Estancia Park w/Billy Isidoro – Invite a Friend! Altar Color – Green	24 Accountable Discipleship Study ABQ, 6pm	25	26 7am Pastor’s Breakfast, ABQ <input type="checkbox"/> 4:30-6:30pm Family Night in Estancia!	27	28	29
30 6pm Fifth Sunday Hymn Sing at Mt Air UMC Altar Color – Green	31 Accountable Discipleship Study ABQ, 6pm	<i>Be Kind to One Another</i>				



Estancia United Methodist Church
P. O. Box 126
Estancia, NM 87016

4th of July "Singin' in the Park

